

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

Office of the Governor



EXECUTIVE ORDER 1350

WHEREAS, Mississippi's Oyster Resource has been negatively impacted in recent years by Hurricane Katrina, the BP Oil Spill and most recently the Bonnet Carré Spillway opening; and

WHEREAS, in spite of a very limited 2014-2015 oyster season, Mississippi is positioned to become a Gulf of Mexico leader in oyster production; and

WHEREAS, the State of Mississippi and the Department of Marine Resources desire to increase the oyster harvest in an effort to create new job and business opportunities while improving the environment through species recovery, habitat creation and improved water quality; and

WHEREAS, the Governor and the designated natural resource agencies of the State of Mississippi are working towards the restoration and resiliency of the damaged natural resources and the economy along the Mississippi Gulf Coast;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Phil Bryant, Governor of the State of Mississippi, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the State of Mississippi, do hereby order and direct as follows:

1. The Governor's Oyster Restoration and Resiliency Council is created to provide expertise, experience and leadership for development of a comprehensive Oyster Resource Resiliency Plan that is prioritized as to recommended actions to be taken and that is based on best practices in the national oyster industry.
2. The Governor's Oyster Restoration and Resiliency Council shall be governed by an Executive Committee which shall be composed of a Chairman and four (4) members appointed by the Governor who serve at the pleasure of the Governor, and shall include no more than nine (9) additional advisory members who constitute the Council. The advisory members shall be nominated by members of the Executive Committee and appointed by the Governor.
3. The Governor's Oyster Restoration and Resiliency Council shall meet from time to time at the call of the Chair to discuss and analyze environmental and economic factors and influences on the oyster resource and explore the role aquaculture and emerging technologies will play in growing the industry. Upon analysis of the factors and influences, the Governor's Oyster Restoration and Resiliency Council shall capture, develop and organize recommendations, projects and programs for the restoration and resiliency of the oyster resource and industry.

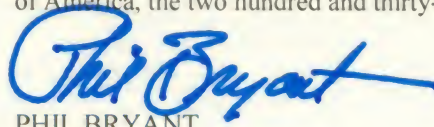
The Governor's Oyster Restoration and Resiliency Council shall by June 2, 2015, provide to the Governor a written Oyster Restoration and Resiliency Plan incorporating all mandates of the Council, which will be accessible to policy-makers and citizens.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED that this Executive Order shall become effective immediately upon its execution and shall remain in effect until amended or modified by the Governor.

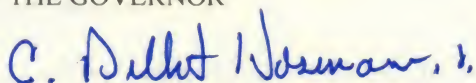


IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Mississippi to be affixed.

DONE in the City of Jackson, on the 2nd day of February, in the year of our Lord, two thousand and fifteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and thirty-ninth.


PHIL BRYANT
GOVERNOR

BY THE GOVERNOR



C. DELBERT HOSEMAN, JR.
SECRETARY OF STATE